

From Text to Screen: Film Adaptations of Anglophone Literature

The aim of the seminar is to prepare the students to write their BA theses concerning film adaptations of Anglophone fiction and non-fiction (novel, short story, auto/biography) and their cultural contexts.

At the seminar, we will examine problems related to film adaptations, such as: the process of transferring verbal texts to audio-visual medium; film as transcription, interpretation and translation; transferable and non-transferable elements of literary works; differences between adaptation, appropriation and modernization; literary and film genres; intertextuality; the idea of fidelity (faithful vs. radical adaptation); differences between television and cinema adaptations; heritage cinema; film as popularisation of high culture; effectiveness and reception of adaptations.

The starting point of discussions will be *Mansfield Park* and *Northanger Abbey* by Jane Austen and the novels' cinematic and TV adaptations. The participants of this course are asked to read the two novels before the classes.

Sample BA Topics

- 1/ Heritage adaptations of *Mansfield Park* and *Northanger Abbey* by Jane Austen
- 2/ Representation of the colonies in Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park* and in its film adaptations
- 3/ Gothic elements in *Northanger Abbey* by Jane Austen and their treatment in film adaptations

Recommended Literature

- Cahir, Linda Constanzo. *Literature into Film: Theory and Practical Approaches*. McFarland, 2006
- Cardwell, Sarah. *Adaptation Revisited: Television and the Classic Novel*. Manchester UP, 2002
- Cartmell, Deborah (ed.). *A Companion to Literature, Film, and Adaptation*. Wiley-Blackwell, 2012
- Harrison, Stephanie. *Adaptations: From Short Story to Big Screen*. New York: Three Rivers Press, 2005
- Hutcheon, Linda. *A Theory of Adaptation*. Abingdon: Routledge, 2006
- Stam, Robert and Alessandra Raengo. *Literature and Film: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Film Adaptation*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2005